

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-10 IO-13
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USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

S E C R E T USNATO 02516

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR
SUBJECT: MBFR: MARCH 10 AD HOC GROUP REPORT TO THE NAC

REF: (A) MBFR VIENNA 111 DTG 081945Z MAR 78, (B)
STATE 61140 DTG 092215Z MAR 78
1. AT MARCH 10 NAC, AMBASSADOR BOLLAND (UK), ASSISTED
BY LUXEMBOURG REP (WINTER) AND DANISH REP (HANSEN)
PRESENTED THE AHG REPORT TRANSMITTED REF A.

2. AFTER A ROUND OF CONGRATULATORY STATEMENTS BY
THE PERMREPS FOR THE AHG'S ASSIDUOUS LABOR IN THE
VIENNA VINEYARDS, THE NAC UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE
AHG REPORT AND ACCEPTED ITS RECOMMENDATION TO
PROCEED WITH THE DATA EXCHANGE ON THE BASIS OF THE
MARCH 8 TEXTS.

3. THE COUNCIL THEN APPROVED THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE:

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BEGIN TEXT:

ON THE BASIS OF RELEVANT COUNCIL GUIDANCE, THE AD HOC
GROUP IS AUTHORIZED TO PROCEED WITH AN EXCHANGE OF
DATA ACCOMPANIED BY THE STATEMENTS REPORTED IN ITS
MESSAGE OF 8 MARCH, 1978.

END TEXT.

4. IN THE RELATIVELY BRIEF DISCUSSION FOLLOWING THE
AHG REPORT, AMBASSADOR BOLLAND WAS ASKED:

--WHETHER THE CONFORMING OF THE ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN
TEXTS MIGHT PRODUCE ANY SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES;

--WHETHER THE "PARALLELISM" BETWEEN THE AVERAGE
MANNING LEVEL (AML) AND FURTHER AIR FORCE
MANPOWER DISAGGREGATION PROPOSALS MIGHT CREATE ANY
DIFFICULTIES;

--HOW THE AHG FORESAW THE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE
NEXT FEW MONTHS.

5. IN RESPONSE TO THE FIRST QUESTION, BOLLAND
ASSURED THE NAC THAT THE CONFORMING OF THE TEXTS
WOULD NOT TOUCH ON SUBSTANCE, BUT CONCENTRATE
ON LINGUISTIC EXACTITUDE. AS TO PARALLELISM
BETWEEN THE AML/AIR FORCE MANPOWER DISAGGREGATION
PROPOSALS, BOLLAND ACKNOWLEDGED THAT IF THE WEST
PRESSED ON FURTHER DISAGGREGATION, IT MIGHT
TRIGGER AN EASTERN REQUEST FOR A RESPONSE
ON AML. HE NOTED THE EAST REGARDED THE AML
PROPOSAL AS A DEVICE TO SUSTAIN THEIR DATA
POSITION AND NOT AS AN OBJECTIVE MEANS OF
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EAST/WEST DATA COMPARISON.

6. REGARDING THE SCHEDULE, HE BELIEVED THE
EAST WOULD NEED 3-4 DAYS TO RESPOND TO THE
WEST'S NEW GUIDANCE. IN ADDITION, THE SIDES
HAD AGREED THERE WOULD BE A TWO WEEK PERIOD
BETWEEN THE EXCHANGE OF GROUND FORCE DATA AND AIR
FORCE DATA, TO WHICH SHOULD BE ADDED TIME FOR THE
REQUISITE DISCUSSION. IN SUM, HE BELIEVED THE
ENTIRE DATA EXCHANGE PROCESS WOULD PROBABLY RUN
UNTIL THE END OF THE CURRENT ROUND (19 APRIL).

7. DISCUSSION OF THE AHG'S SCHEDULE WAS USED
BY SEVERAL DELEGATIONS AS AN OCCASION TO MAKE
KNOWN ONCE AGAIN THEIR POSITION ON THE TIMING
FOR TABLING THE NEW INITIATIVE. THE BELGIANS,
FRG AND ITALIAN REPS STRESSED THE NEED TO CONSIDER
CAREFULLY THE RESULTS OF THE DATA EXCHANGE
BEFORE MOVING FORWARD WITH THE ALLIED INITIATIVE,
AND OPPOSED THE CANADIAN/DANISH/UK/NORWEGIAN/DUTCH
LINE THAT THE WEST SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO TABLE
THE PROPOSAL BEFORE THE UN SSDD. BENNETT

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